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Report upon the Condition of the Town of Leeds and of its Inhabitants.
By a STATISTICAL COMMITTEE OF THE TOWN COUNCIL. October
1839.*

THE Statistical Committee, having brought their labours to a close, beg to present their Report to the Council; and in laying before that body the interesting and important facts which have come under their notice, they trust that, although the amount of money expended by them has been large, and the period during which the investigation has been made, has been apparently protracted,† yet neither the time nor the money has been mispent, in obtaining correct information on points, in which are involved so many of the various interests, and so much of the happiness of the people, over whom the Council is placed. If a longer period had been allowed, and further means could have been afforded, the inquiry might have been extended more into detail. The Council will observe that tables of subjects are left vacant, which it was originally intended to have carried out, and which could not have failed of being productive of utility, and would have been, in many points of view, highly interesting. As it is, direct attention has been paid only to the prominent features of the condition of the town, viz.—

1. To the surface and sub-condition of the streets; as, for instance, the sewerage, paving, draining, lighting, and cleansing;—to the nuisances which they contain, and particularly to those which are more immediately exposed to public view.

2. To the houses; the size of some, and their accommodation, as compatible with the number of their inhabitants;—their ventilation and cleanliness;—their supply of good water; and the means of carrying off the refuse, together with the general attention paid to local nuisances; the number of houses at various rates of rent.

3. To the population; in its social economy, noticing its most important bearings as to numbers, and their condition, whether married or single, householders or lodgers, owners or only occupiers: number of English, Irish, and other families located, with a view to future statistics on emigration and immigration; widows and widowers, children at different ages; the number working in mills; domestic servants and lodgers: the trades and occupations of all the active population, with their congregation in certain localities: common lodging houses; and benefit societies, &c. In its moral economy—exhibiting the statistics of crime, viz., the number of persons brought up before the Leeds magistrates during the period of nine years, their ages, trades, and occupations; results of summary convictions, and of trials at the sessions: and the number of times the same persons have been brought up during the same year.—Further, with regard to its religious state;—the number of churches and chapels, with their sects, and the amount of accommodation:—to its intellectual state; the number of day schools, and of what order; their general character; the rate of weekly charge; Sunday-schools;—public libraries and other institutions of an intellectual character:—to its physical state; the births, deaths, and marriages

* This report has been partially abridged in order to render it suitable to the present publication.

† The inquiry cost 320*l.*, and occupied eleven months.

in the district of the Registrars ; tables of mortality, showing different influences upon longevity ; the amount of medical and other permanent charity,—of destitution ; of vagrancy ;—the rate and average of wages of different classes of artisans, with the amount of employment throughout the year ; and finally, a directory of every inhabitant householder, showing whether they have lodgers or not ; besides other useful information of various kinds. When the Council determined that a statistical investigation should be made into the condition of the town, the extent to which even the present inquiry has been carried was by no means contemplated. But in attempting to follow out the original view of the Council, many circumstances arose both relating to the town generally, and to the inhabitants, of a nature so important to be made known, and so intimately associated with the general elements of good local government, that the Committee could not but proceed further than they at first contemplated, and they have therefore a somewhat more detailed outline to present, although, as has been previously said, it is by no means so extensive as they could have desired.

These statistical inquiries extend only to the township of Leeds, and for the convenience of reference have been made in wards. It must be borne in mind, however, that in many instances the line of demarcation between wards is the opposite side of some particular street. Thus, for instance, Kirkgate is divided between the Kirkgate and the North Wards. The total population of Kirkgate must therefore be looked for in both wards under the same head. By adhering closely to these divisions, and giving the streets of each ward with their dwellings and population, and the immigrant families, together with the trades, occupations, &c. the state of the town as to its increase or decrease in the aggregate, or in any one particular, may, in future, be distinctly ascertained. Thus, for instance, by giving the number of streets in each ward, the subsequent extension of any ward, and the quality as well as quantity of that extension, may be correctly ascertained. By showing the number and nature of dwellings in each ward, the migration from one ward to another, with its cause, such as the conversion of former residences into mills, warehouses or shops, or any other circumstance producing the enhancement or depreciation in the value of sites, may be noticed. By a reference to the return of owners and occupiers may be observed the number of persons who have a direct interest in the soil, and this must surely be a matter of importance in any population composed extensively of the working classes. By comparing the number of the inhabitants at different periods, we shall arrive at the amount of emigration or immigration, and the sources whence both arise. By inquiring whether their labour is employed at home or not, the increase or diminution of domestic labour will be seen ; an investigation by no means uninteresting in a variable state of manufacture, and which will have just influence on the further outlay of capital in buildings for manufacturing purposes. By a reference to the total population of each street and ward, and to the registries of births, marriages, and deaths of the same, either in single streets or in the aggregate,—the social, domestic, and physical condition of each ward or street may be satisfactorily developed, and the proper remedies, where remedies are needed, may be ascertained and applied. In this manner all the questions in the following tables have generally been designed and worked out, not more with a desire of

having present correct data, on which to ground useful calculations, than with a view to future comparisons.

In reporting the superficial state of the wards, it must be borne in mind that the inquiry has been extended over the period from November 1838 to October 1839; and that during the collection of the evidence now presented to the Council, considerable improvements have been effected, and some alterations have taken place, either owing to a knowledge of the fact, that an inquiry had been instituted by the Council, or from the attention of the owners of property having been personally directed to the state of particular localities. But, generally speaking, their average condition remains the same, and, it seems to your Committee, must continue so, until some steps have been taken to enforce better regulations for sewerage, paving, and draining the streets, and for more effectually cleansing, ventilating, and regulating the dwellings of the inhabitants in large towns, both for their comfort, the prevention of disease, and for facilitating improvements in the moral and social condition of those who at present, from circumstances over which they have no control, are neglected and forgotten. The difference which an enactment for this purpose would occasion in the general bearing and character of the inhabitants themselves is so apparent, that it seems a matter of surprise that, in a pecuniary point of view, the better regulation of the streets in which the cottagers reside is not an object of more solicitude to the landlord. The tenants are not to blame, but they have no protection from the cupidity of the landlord, neither have the public, who, daily passing and repassing these filthy streets, are exposed to the sight of the most offensive nuisances. The condition of the streets of Leeds, however, and especially of those parts of the town in which the working classes congregate and reside, is a subject of vast importance in every point of view, but particularly with regard to the general health of the inhabitants. In another part of the Report the attention of the Council is especially directed to this consideration, and the Committee earnestly hope that something will be speedily done to remove this great grievance. During the inquiry it was thought by the Committee that the powers vested in the Improvement Commissioners, under their Improvement Act, might have been beneficially exercised in the removal of nuisances of a pressing nature; and the Chairman of the Committee waited on that body for the purpose of inquiring how far such an object could be effected: but the general term nuisance is so indefinite in point of law, and the means of obtaining information are so uncertain, that no immediate good resulted from the communication. It seems, however, worthy of consideration whether streets, which have been long used by the public, have not become highways, and are liable to the Acts of Parliament under which highways are regulated: otherwise your Committee are not aware of any remedy; but they hope that it will form a subject of grave inquiry in the future deliberations of the town-council, based on the statistical facts now presented.

The North Ward* is reported to contain 80 streets, the condition of which is as follows: 37 good, 14 middling, 15 bad, and 14 very bad. By the term "good" is meant the state of the surface,

* Formed by the area within the boundary of the east side of Vicar Lane and North Street, the Leylands, part of York Street, and the north side of Kirkgate.

as the same term would be applied to any part of Briggate. The word "middling" is generally intended to apply to streets that are paved, speaking as to quantity, and which are now and then swept by the occupiers of the houses. "Bad" is a term applied to half paved streets, which are never swept; and "very bad" to the broken and undulating surfaces of those which are at the same moment a street, a pond, and a midden, never swept, never cleaned, nor drained, all absorbent, in the fullest sense in which each term is applied. The condition of some of the streets and dwellings in this ward is proverbial.* They are stated to be, all more or less, deficient in sewerage, unpaved, full of holes, with deep channels formed by the rain intersecting the roads and annoying the passengers; some ill-lighted, and some without lamps; with cellars sometimes so dangerously exposed, that passengers are liable to frequent accidents; and sometimes rendered untenable by the overflowing of sewers and other more offensive drains; with ash-holes, &c. exposed to public view, and never emptied, or being wholly wanting, as is frequently the case, the refuse is accumulated in cellars, thrown into the streets, or piled against the walls.†

There are 37 houses of ill fame in this ward, three of which are dens of the most infamous description. In the Boot and Shoe Yard there are 34 houses occupied by 43 tenants, consisting of 79 heads of families, viz. 174 males and 166 females, making a total of 340 inhabitants, or ten to every house. The number of rooms in these houses is about 57; there are therefore on an average six persons to each room. The annual rental of this property is 214*l.* There are only three out-offices, from one of which, during the period of the cholera, 75 cart-loads of soil were removed by order of the Commissioners, and which is reported not to have been cleaned out since. There is no water within a quarter of a mile. Very few of the inhabitants possess vessels in which to hold or fetch water. Those who have the means of fetching it can get it for about 2*d.* a week, but many of them pay from 4*d.* to 7*d.*, and in some cases as much as 2*s.*

The North East Ward contains 93 streets, of the following character; 27 good, 19 middling, 31 bad, and 16 very bad. The bad are very numerous, and consist chiefly of streets half middling and the other half very bad, having dangerous excavations, cellar-steps unprotected, bad drainage, little or no sewerage; here and there pieces of stagnant water; ash-holes exposed; out-offices without doors or seats; very unsafe and filthy dark passages, and flights of steps forming thoroughfares from one street to another, worn out and exceedingly dangerous. There are several horrible places in this ward which are utterly impassable for filth of the most offensive description. In Mabgate, a considerable distance alongside the Beck is unprotected, and not long since a child was drowned there. The burial-ground belonging to the Primitive Methodists, but now thrown open, is made the receptacle of every species of nuisance.

The East Ward is described as containing 122 streets, of which 35 are good, 17 middling, 28 bad, and 42 very bad. Many of the streets designated good are worthy of imitation, for instance, those belonging

* The Leylands, Skinner Lane, George's Street, Union Street, Ebenezer Street, Goulden's Buildings, Harper Street, Wellington Yard, and Boot and Shoe Yard.

† A particular description of several of these streets in this and the other wards is inserted in the Report, but omitted here, as possessing chiefly a local interest.

to Mr. Croisdale, Ellerby Lane, and some others; but a large number are in as bad a state as those previously described. Many Irish families live in some parts of this ward, and keep pigs in the cellars which they themselves inhabit.

The South Ward is described as having 23 streets, 10 good, 4 middling, 6 bad, and 3 very bad.

Kirkgate Ward, containing 18 streets, is reported upon the whole to be in a good state.

The Mill Hill Ward contains 48 streets; 35 are good, 5 middling, 4 bad, and 4 very bad.

The West Ward contains 125 streets; 53 good, 26 middling, 34 bad, and 12 very bad.

The North West Ward contains 77 streets; 32 are good, 23 middling, 17 bad, and 5 very bad.

In this cursory description of the superficial state of the wards, more credit is allowed to the heading "good," than, in common fairness, ought to be; for although 244 streets are said to be good, the Council will remember that, in these observations, the definition of the word good is only relative; of those 244 streets only about 70 belong to the town, and are cleaned by the scavengers, and these are all that should be called good; the remainder, if they deserve the name, are indebted to accidental circumstances for their present condition. Many of them are paved like those of the town, and generally they have either thorough vents, or, by reason of their locality, have fall enough to be cleaned whenever there is sufficient rain to effect that purpose. The condition of all those where the population is exceedingly dense, where the traffic necessarily is great, and where there is hardly sufficient fall for sewerage, even if it were attempted, may be easily imagined.

The attention of the Council is next directed to the following points for consideration in this part of the survey.

1. The want of out-offices for the accommodation of the inhabitants, and the necessity of some surveillance over those which may be said to be public, for the purpose of maintaining the general health, and to free the inhabitants from dangers of an accidental nature.

2. The offensive practice which prevails, of allowing the conveniences outside of public houses to remain exposed to public view.

3. The intersection of the public streets with clothes-lines.

4. The cellars and steps which are unprotected in public causeways.

5. The state of the sewerage, and the consequences which ensue from a general want of it.

1. The want of out-offices for the ordinary accommodation of the tenants is a matter of importance, first as regards the actual absence or insufficiency of them, and secondly their unserviceable condition, by which the greatest nuisances are committed in the neighbourhood of other property, and before the eye of the public. Both these questions refer to the health, not only of the neighbourhood, but of the whole community. It seems to your committee that some of the property where the working classes reside has been laid out without any reference whatever to the erecting of out-offices, and a great part of the remainder certainly without relation to numbers. Thus, for instance, for three streets in the Bank containing 100 dwellings, and a population

of 452 persons, there are but two small offices, neither of which is fit for use; one street being wholly destitute of such provision. And again, in Lorry Bank, in the North-west ward, there are 30 houses containing 50 inhabitants with only one office. These are given as instances of facts which might be multiplied in every ward, and almost in every locality, amongst the humbler classes. The inhabitants complain, as well they may, not only of the little regard paid to the comforts, but also to the common decencies of life, which one would think should form a consideration with owners of property; and the consequence is that the streets become the receptacle for ashes, filth, and refuse of every description, until they become far above their original level, and offensive beyond measure at all times, and during all seasons. This is not an overstrained description, for in one of these streets where there is no drainage, an expiring Irishwoman was found in a cellar-dwelling surrounded by her family and a number of pigs, the filth of which latter it would be necessary to remove into the street by the hand. But where these offices are built, the same results would accrue if no attention was paid to their cleanliness. These places in a poor neighbourhood are, in truth, public conveniences, for being in most cases built under an archway in the thoroughfares which are left for the passage of the tenants from one street to another, they are used by all neighbours or passengers. Uncleansed, because it is nobody's business, and every body's perquisite, they become offensive in the highest degree. But if a surveillance of such a nature as would remedy this glaring evil, so as to compel the building of offices where there are none, and the cleansing of those that exist, might be considered an interference of an unwarrantable nature, surely it is not too much to demand that the safety of the public, both from accidental death and from death by disease, should be cared for, of both of which instances are quoted in the Report.

2. The nuisance arising from public conveniences which do not conceal the person cannot have escaped the attention of the most casual observer. If they are to be allowed at all in the public streets, their formation so as to conceal the person should be rigidly enforced. It may be said that every inn has not accommodation for such buildings, and that the commissioners will not permit them to be erected on the public land. This may be true, but the argument is not a valid excuse for exhibitions which are highly offensive both to public morals and to the public eye, or for any person to take a licence to sell ale, and forthwith to place a flag edgeway against the front wall of his house, for the accommodation of his customers. The number of these nuisances is 292, of which 190 front the public road, and only 19 are made so as to conceal the person.

3. The intersection of the streets with clothes-lines is an anomaly in street regulations. In the township of Leeds, out of the total number of 586 streets, 276, or nearly one-half, are weekly so full of lines and linen as to be impassable for horses and carriages, and almost for foot-passengers. In several of the streets the washed linen of the inhabitants is hung out to dry from the windows of the second story, and is thus placed entirely out of the way. Either this should be made general, or some distinct place should be provided for the accommodation of the working classes for this important domestic purpose. The

same answer is returned here as has been previously given; viz., that these streets are private property, and that other persons than those who have the right of use have no business to pass and re-pass them; and whatever nuisances exist, the passenger, who is merely so by sufferance, has no right to interfere. But the reply to this is, that by public usage these streets become highways, and therefore no such interruptions of them ought to be allowed. Many accidents have occurred from this usage, and many others will continue to occur, as long as such a practice is permitted to remain in force.

4. In several of the reports on the wards individually, the cellar openings and steps in the causeways have been noticed. These are a great inconvenience, and attended with considerable danger in those parts of the town which are altogether without lamps or but partially lighted. Steps in the causeways, in many cases rising a foot in height, and opening to cellars and window frontages, are not at all uncommon. During the course of these inquiries, five persons have broken their legs from this cause alone.

5. The last point to which the attention of the Council is directed under the head of streets is the state of the sewerage; and, although considerable difficulty has arisen in the inquiry, as to which streets are furnished with sewers, and a great deal of doubtful information has been rejected, yet much valuable matter has been obtained, showing that the sewerage and drainage of the township of Leeds is exceedingly deficient, and altogether inapplicable to the wants of so large a population. The Mill-Hill, Kirkgate, and part of the North wards, are all, generally speaking, furnished with sewers in those streets that belong to the town, and many of the others, which do not belong to it, have small sewers emptying themselves into others which are larger. But it may be readily imagined that proprietors of land, in laying out private property for building ground in any particular locality, and sewerage it for their own advantage, never contemplated the appropriation of that sewer to the contributions of adjoining property.

It would seem that the Sheepscar Beck, in the whole of its course, was originally intended not only to be available for the important purposes of manufacture, but was so situated as to receive and carry off the water from the higher land, on its eastern and western sides; and that there could not possibly have arisen any difficulty in the formation of excellent sewers from Camp Lane, Brunswick Street, and the whole range of streets between the Beck End, the eastern side of North Street, and Vicar Lane. What, however, is the fact? Instead of parallel sewers, discharging themselves into the Beck, with all the advantage of their fall, they pour their contents into the sewers in North Street, Regent Street, and Bridge Street, and ultimately into the Beck, near Lady Bridge. Thus the sewer in Regent Street runs along its whole line parallel with the Beck, then turns up to the west at Moscow Street, and part of Templar Street, where it unites with the Bridge Street sewer, and subsequently discharges itself into the Beck at Lady Bridge. Unless, therefore, the sewer in Bridge Street was originally made sufficiently capacious to receive these immense contributions, it is evident that the part of the district, which has the least fall, has not only the worst chance of discharging its contents, but there is considerable danger

of its being engorged with back water from other neighbourhoods, which must find its vent somewhere else. It was thus in the spring of 1839, during some days of uninterrupted wet weather, that this sewer in Regent Street was engorged, and emptied itself into the cellar dwellings of that densely populated and lowly situated neighbourhood, producing all the results of malaria, and rendering the health and even the lives of the inhabitants precarious. So fatal were the effects, that the registrar of that district made a report, that during the period in question there were in that neighbourhood two births to three deaths, whilst in all the other districts there were three births to two deaths. Other populous districts are shown in the report to be wholly without sewers, or so inadequately provided as to derive no advantage from them. In some rows of houses the cellar dwellings are seldom dry: in another district several streets are described as being "in that state in which a frequented road leading over a field to a brick garth would be in wet weather." The inhabitants have from time to time vainly attempted to repair these streets with shovelfull of ashes; and soil and refuse water stand in every hole where a lodgement can be made, there to remain until absorbed by wind or sun—"a perpetual nuisance to the eye, and a perpetual fever to the whole body."

This question will naturally arise in the minds of the Council—If there be neither sewerage, drainage, nor out-offices, how can the inhabitants of the parts of the town accommodate themselves, and how do they get rid of their refuse? The answer is, that in a great measure the adult population use the offices of their respective places of employment, and that all the refuse of their dwellings is thrown into the street, where pools of water accumulate and stagnate, exhaling pestilential effluvia over the whole neighbourhood, or sump-holes are used for absorbing it; a less disgusting mode of riddance, but more subtle and pernicious in its effects, because less suspected, and therefore less guarded against. Why is it that parts of the North-east and North-west wards are germs of fever and hot-beds of disease? Because sump-holes, stagnant water, and inundated or damp cellars everywhere abound in them. Take, for instance, some of the streets on the York road, where every house has a sump-hole under its cellars, full of deposit, long since stagnant. Take the residences by Lady Bridge through all its course, where there are cellar dwellings, in which the inhabitants have awakened in the night, and found their beds literally floating in their apartments. Take parts of the North-east and North wards, the cellars of which are humid and dark, with undrained land, and re-gurgitating sewers, and you will have the answer. It was early during these inquiries that a deputation of women waited upon one of your committee, hearing that such an inquiry as this had been determined upon, to beg an immediate remedy for a stagnant pool in Harper Street, which was ultimately removed. And now in calmly looking at the surface and sub-condition of the streets in this important and populous town, and in comparing one fact with another, let the members of the Council ask each other,—1st, Whether these classes, who form a great part of its aggregate population, have their fair share of public comfort and convenience. 2d. Whether there can be any reasonable ground for disbelieving the report of the registrar-general, which proves Leeds to be a most unhealthy location.

The annexed table, No. 1., gives the condition of the wards at one view ; as far as the committee have been able to ascertain the facts, and by one or two comparisons the Council will be led to form their own estimates on these questions. It will be seen that the population of the North-east ward is 16,269 ; and that 15,399 consist of the working classes. There are in the ward 93 streets ; of which 27 are described as good ; 4 are paved by the town ; 3 are wholly, and 12 partly, sewered ; 38 are without sewers, and 40 have not been ascertained. The number of dwellings is 3,813, and the rate to be collected upon property within the ward is 1,491*l.* 18*s.* Let it be observed, however, that though 27 streets are denominated good, only 4 of these are paved by the town ; and, therefore, in reality only 4 are regularly attended to by the surveyor and scavenger. If then the remaining "good" be added to the middling, since all which do not belong to the town are never wholly swept or cleaned, and are rarely, if ever, repaired, the description of the surface of the whole ward will be complete. The sewerage may also be judged of in like manner ; 40 streets have not been ascertained, because in most instances no one could inform the querist whether they had sewers or not ; a presumptive proof that they had none ; on which supposition 78 out of 93 are totally without sewers. In comparing this with the Mill Hill ward, which contains a population of 5,167, including 1,566 persons of the working classes, a total number of 48 streets, of which 13 only are bad, very bad, and middling, 19 are paved by the town, and 19 have public sewers—we see a very considerable difference ; and though it is true that the amount of rate to be collected is very considerably above that from the North-east ward, yet the number of dwellings and population is proportionately so much greater in the latter, that population ought to bear comparison with property, and have a fair share of the benefit as it has of the burden. All property rated to the poor-rate is liable to be rated to the highways, and a great quantity of cottage property is also included in the improvement-rate. The cottagers, therefore, contribute their legal quota to the repair of the highways of the township. But if we take the mass of cottagers, who are included in the highway rate, merely in the North, North-east and East wards, we shall find that they alone contribute a conjoined rate of 4,701*l.* 15*s.* 8*d.*, for which they have only 19 streets paved by the town out of an aggregate number of 295 ; whilst in Mill Hill, out of 48 streets, 19 have this advantage. The fair inference is, that in a great measure the cottagers are rated as a part, and for the benefit of the whole community, but are mulcted of that proportion which ought to carry clean pavement to their own doors, instead of the privilege of having it here and there only in their necessary progress through the town to and from their occupation. It matters not, that because for a warehouse the occupier pays a larger amount of rate, he has a primary right to clean and good streets only in the front of his own dwelling ; he has also a right to them in those parts of the town to which his avocations, his inclination or his duty, may lead him ; and the small rate-payer who furnishes his quota as demanded, in the ratio of his occupancy, has an equal right to all the comforts and advantages enjoyed by his more opulent neighbour. Let it not, however, be charged upon all the landlords alike, that their freeholds are a bye-word and reproach for this

want of attention to the surface and sub-condition of the soil. In many instances, when the property of a street is in many hands, one half of them or more have originally completed their respective parts, as regards paving and sewerage: but the cupidity, obstinacy, or poverty, or all combined, of other owners, or even of a single one, has prevented the improvement of the whole. One thing is certain, that the greater part of the town is in a most filthy condition, which demands an immediate remedy; a remedy which does not seem attainable under any local Act now existing; but calls for an especial enactment, which is doubtless required not only for Leeds, but, more or less, for every town in the empire.

TABLE I.—Number of Streets in each Ward; their general Condition, as compared with the Population of the Ward, and its Rate to the Highway.

WARDS.	Population of the Wards.	Population of the Working Classes.	STREETS.													Total Number of Dwellings.	Amount of Poor Rate to be collected on Property.
			Total Number.	Condition as to Surface.				Paved by the Town.	Condition as to Sewerage.								
				Good.	Middling.	Bad.	Very Bad.		Wholly Sewered.		Partly Sewered.	Not Sewered.	Not ascertained.				
									Private Sewers.	Public Sewers.							
North .	12,506	9,450	80	37	14	15	14	8	2	8	8	11	51	2,794	£. s. d.		
N. East .	16,269	15,399	93	27	19	31	16	4	..	3	12	38	40	3,813	1,491 18 0		
East. .	14,271	13,261	122	35	17	28	42	7	..	3	13	69	37	3,461	1,504 17 8		
South .	5,630	4,243	23	10	4	6	3	4	..	..	1	13	9	1,236	1,330 13 8
Kirkgate	3,138	1,233	18	15	1	2	0	7	..	4	5	6	3	645	1,659 17 8		
Mill Hill	5,167	1,566	48	35	5	4	4	19	..	19	2	4	23	984	3,890 11 8		
West .	15,483	9,468	125	53	26	34	12	9	..	1	3	8	113	3,305	3,457 8 4		
N. West .	9,656	6,592	77	32	23	17	5	11	..	0	3	10	64	2,141	1,631 13 8		
Total .	82,120	61,212	586	244	109	137	96	68	2	38	47	159	340	18,379	16,672 1 4		

Houses.

The size of an ordinary cottage room in Leeds is 5 yards square, and about 4 yards in height. Few comparatively exceed this size. Each house consists generally of a cellar, a sitting-room, and a chamber. This small size of the houses may perhaps be one of the causes of the tendency to consumption, which in Leeds is very prevalent in proportion to other diseases, and to a much greater extent than is generally imagined; for there can be no doubt that the vitiated atmosphere of sleeping rooms of so small a size, crammed with human beings as many of them are, both during the day and night, predisposes the system to diseases of such a character.

The subjoined table shows more clearly what may be said to be the average size of cottages for individual families; and also of those which are the common lodging houses of vagrants and poor travellers, with the space for breathing room, and the number of inmates for whom accommodation is provided. Let the fact be marked, that in some instances there are from 5 to 6 persons in each bed; that there are generally

2 or 3; and, frequently, without separation of the sexes, or consideration as to age; brother and sister up to adolescence sleeping commonly in the same room, and not unfrequently in the same bed: and it is to be feared, as has been often stated to be the case, that crime to an incalculable extent takes its rise from this custom, and spreads thence its influence abroad. But imagining the atmosphere of these dwellings, where 6 persons have been partly living by day, and wholly sleeping by night, whose entire space does not exceed 600 cubic feet: where every office has to be performed; pent up in a confined yard, through which the free air seldom, if ever, circulates; can it be a matter of wonder that parts of Leeds are exceedingly unhealthy, or that squalid objects of humanity present themselves often to our view? If to this be added, in the case of young persons working in mills, the transition from heated and foul air to the cold and humid atmosphere of a December morning at 5½ o'clock; and then again to the temperature of a room perhaps at 90°, and back again to the open air, with all the other modes by which the thread of life is weakened, we may be surprised rather that the ratio of life should be so great in manufacturing towns as it is, and particularly as compared with congregations not subjected to these violent changes.

TABLE II.—Size and Accommodation of Cottage Houses.

Yards in Kirkgate.	House.	Rooms in each House.				Inmates.	
		Day Rooms.	Sleeping Rooms.	Size in Cubic Feet.	Number of Beds.	Total Number.	Number to a Bed.
Wellington Yard . . .	1	1	3	1200	6	13	2
„ . . .	1	1	1	1000	2	8	4
„ . . .	1	1	1	800	..	11	..
„ . . .	1	1	1	1000	..	8	..
„ . . .	1	1	1	1000	..	9	..
„ . . .	1	1	1	1000	..	5	..
Dixon's Buildings . . .	1	0	1	700	1	5	5
„ . . .	1	..	1	600	1	6	6
„ . . .	1	..	1	900	2	8	4
Cherry Tree Yard . . .	1	..	1	1800	..	12	..
Old Post Office Yard . . .	1	..	4	1400	6	27	4½
„ . . .	1	..	2	1200	2	10	5
„ . . .	1	..	12	1200	16	39	2½
„ . . .	1	..	1	600	..	4	..
Harper's Yard . . .	1	1	1	1000	..	5	..
„ Street . . .	1	1	2	1000	2	10	5
„ „ . . .	1	1	1	800	..	9	..
„ „ . . .	1	1	2	1000	..	15	..

Generally speaking, ventilation is not well attended to, but the ordinary appearance of the dwellings is cleanly and comfortable. Exceptions to this rule are to be found in the houses of the Irish handloom weavers, which, none of the cleanest at best, are in many instances rendered still more deplorable by the intermixture of beds, chairs, looms, and all manner of utensils, diminishing still further the cubic feet of air which they have to breathe at night, vitiated as it has been by long days

of incessant labour, and pent up in a situation almost beyond the possibility of circulation. In addition to this, the supply of good water is exceedingly deficient in many parts of the town, and has to be bought and carried a considerable distance, at great expense both of labour and money. The main sources of supply are the waterworks, a few public pumps, and the water-carts, all of which furnish a quantity much too scanty for the demand. It has been stated that water costs some of the inhabitants in the Boot and Shoe Yard as much as 2s. a-week. This must, however, be a rare case, and arises in a great measure from carriage and quantity. The means of carrying off refuse water has been referred to under the head of "Sewers."

An attempt has been made, and your committee believes with success, to ascertain accurately what number of dwellings there are in the township of Leeds, at the respective rentals of 5*l.* and under, between 5*l.* and 10*l.*, 10*l.* and 20*l.*, and above 20*l.*, with several objects in-view, but particularly to ascertain the probable number of the working classes, the amount of which it was, for many reasons, important to obtain. The subjoined table gives the information obtained under this head.

TABLE III.—Number and Rents of Houses.

Wards.	Number of Occupied Dwellings.	Number of Empty Dwellings.	Total Number of Dwellings.	Rents.				Cellar Dwellings, not accounted for in previous columns.	Common Lodging Houses.	
				£5 and under.	Above £5 and under £10.	£10 to £20.	Above £20.		Number	Number of Beds
North. .	2,734	60	2,794	540	1,560	524	110	100	20	56
N. East .	3,731	82	3,813	1,546	1,876	264	45	187	12	70
East . .	3,246	115	3,361	1,662	1,285	226	73	145	6	25
South. .	1,214	22	1,236	300	643	194	77	25	..	..
Mill Hill	976	8	984	102	246	184	444	11	..	..
Kirkgate	641	4	645	82	192	130	237	10	3	5
West . .	3,252	53	3,305	340	1,764	778	370	74	..	..
N. West.	2,045	96	2,141	700	765	340	240	3	..	..
Total .	17,839	440	18,279	5,272	8,331	2,640	1,596	555	41	156

From these occupied dwellings the population has been taken; and by reference to their rental the numbers of the working classes may be obtained. Thus, for instance, supposing the total population of the township of Leeds to be 82,120, and the number of inhabited houses 17,839, the one divided by the other will give the average number of inhabitants in each family, viz., a fraction more than $4\frac{1}{2}$; and if all the houses under 10*l.* rent are taken, and multiplied by $4\frac{1}{2}$, we have the number of those who may fairly be called the working classes, 10*l.* being about the highest rental of any cottage house in the township. Thus, 13,603 is the number of houses under the annual rent of 10*l.*, which, multiplied by $4\frac{1}{2}$, gives the number of the working classes 61,212. From these data many interesting results may be obtained, of which some are to be found in the following pages under the head of "Population."

The cost and value of house property, exclusive of mills, warehouses,

and other buildings, in the township of Leeds, may be thus estimated :—the total number of dwellings is 18,279, and the number of houses under the rent of 10*l.* is 13,603, leaving 4,676 houses whose annual rental exceeds 10*l.*

Supposing the average cost of a good cottage house to be 75*l.*, including land, then the number of houses under 10*l.*, multiplied by 75, will give the original cost of their erection, viz., 1,020,225*l.*; and if the remainder of the dwellings be averaged each to have cost 400*l.*, the number multiplied by that sum would give 1,870,400*l.*, making a total of 2,890,625*l.* If the mean annual rental of these cottages be 7*l.*, deducting leakages and repairs, then their yearly value to the proprietors is 95,221*l.*; and if those above 10*l.* be averaged at 25*l.*, their value is 116,900*l.* per annum, making a total revenue of 212,121*l.*

By applying these data to wards, the nominal value of the property in each, and the cause of its depreciation or enhancement, may be readily ascertained; but this is an inquiry foreign to this report.

Population.

It will be seen by the annexed table that the total population of Leeds alone is 82,120, of whom 27,299 are children under 13 years of age, 9,947 are young persons between 13 and 21, and 44,874 form the adult population of the whole number. Generally speaking, the population of a country is considered to be passive until 15 years of age; but in England, with its manufactures, mines, and other species of employment for labour, it is passive only until 9 years, a period at which the law now sanctions the employment of children for a limited number of hours during the day, reserving, however, the name of children until 13 years of age, when they are designated young persons. For this reason it was thought desirable by your committee to retain these distinctions. The passive population of Leeds is, therefore, 20,445, or one-fourth of the whole; and the productive number is 61,675. Of these latter 17,839 are inhabitant householders; amongst whom are 13,881 married couples, 999 single persons, and 2,990 widows or widowers;* 4,283 are lodgers, and 4,509 are domestic servants.

The Irish immigrant families amount to 996, and others from various places to 70, and, as may be seen, are collected chiefly in the North, North-east, and East wards, especially the latter, where they carry on handloom weaving to a considerable extent.

It is to be hoped that the information contained in some of the tables now presented will give rise to measures which will afford permanent comfort to a great part of the population, which during a lengthened period has been entirely overlooked. Some of the others will doubtless suggest a variety of inquiries of a useful character, when returns of a similar nature are again made. For instance, the proportion of married persons to the population will show whether the latter is stationary, or its proportionate increase or decrease. The householders will indicate the increase or decrease of persons having interest in the town more directly than a mere account of the number of occupiers.

* Deducting from the number of householders 31 widows, who reside two in a house in the almshouses, each of which has only been counted as a single dwelling.

TABLE IV.—Population of the Township of Leeds.

Wards.	DWELLINGS.							COUNTRY.			
	Occupied by		Occupied by			Widows.	Widowers.	English.	Irish.	Others.	
	Owners.	Tenants.	Married.	Single Persons.							
				Male.	Female.						
North . .	90	2,644	2,134	67	96	341	96	2,480	236	18	
N. East . .	106	3,625	2,980	53	80	477	141	3,546	167	18	
East . . .	56	3,190	2,629	49	61	415	92	2,725	512	9	
South . . .	21	1,193	897	50	23	182	62	1,207	5	2	
Mill Hill.	54	922	695	76	40	120	45	960	9	7	
Kirkgate.	9	632	480	40	24	66	31	626	11	4	
West . . .	209	3,043	2,501	91	120	437	134	3,194	48	10	
N. West . .	116	1,929	1,565	64	65	259	92	2,035	8	2	
Total . .	661	17,178	13,881	490	509	2,297	693	16,773	996	70	

Wards.	INMATES.													
	Children.								Lodgers.		Domestic Servants.		Total.	
	Under 9 Years.		Between 9 and 13.		Between 13 and 21.		Above 21.							
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
North . .	1,546	1,547	429	525	721	633	316	369	578	309	274	391	6,161	6,345
N. East . .	2,101	2,171	707	741	1,071	995	403	391	408	395	39	136	7,903	8,366
East . . .	1,948	1,920	674	662	932	855	271	267	368	313	38	148	7,001	7,270
South . . .	675	643	286	287	401	356	141	152	222	124	62	170	2,796	2,834
Mill Hill	551	507	171	174	239	258	120	167	166	79	247	816	2,311	2,856
Kirkgate	312	346	99	133	185	151	87	69	107	55	164	309	1,505	1,633
West . . .	1,803	1,911	605	605	1,024	944	409	558	556	247	149	889	7,271	8,212
N. West . .	1,256	1,208	371	385	591	591	270	341	205	151	49	628	4,463	5,193
Total . .	10,192	10,253	3,342	3,512	5,164	4,783	2,017	2,314	2,610	1,673	1,022	3,487	39,411	42,709

The increase or decrease of immigrant families, as compared with the ratio, price, and kind of labour in which they are employed, will form an interesting subject of inquiry, as there can be little doubt that the indigenous population of Leeds has hitherto been insufficient for the various manufacturing purposes for which labour has been required. We are indebted to the Irish peasantry for this extension of some kinds of manufacture. The flax and worsted spinning trade of Leeds and Bradford, in periods of great demand, have derived material assistance from immigrant labourers; so much so as to have been relieved from a pressure, which would have exceedingly curtailed the active operations of their respective machinery. It is important to know the number of children who assist in forming both the passive and active population;

for by the former we can estimate the number that ought to be at school, and by a knowledge of the schools, and of the number of scholars attending them, we may arrive at the number of children whose early education is neglected. Having ascertained this, it will not be difficult to discover the cause, whether arising from inability or indisposition on the part of the parent, from want of school accommodation, or from any other reason, and to set about applying the remedy: we may also learn the number who are contributing to the maintenance of their families, and the amount which they produce. Statistics show, and experience confirms, the expense of an uncultivated population, as well as the discomfort always attendant upon it. It is trite to say that the price of punishment is, in the end, found to be far more costly than the expense of education.

If we subdivide the active population into its various branches, we shall see how it is employed; by which means we may ascertain the number of those who depend for their daily sustenance upon variable employment, subject to alterations or total extinction, which can neither be foreseen nor avoided. Thus, for instance, in looking back at the great changes that have taken place in the processes of manufacture in the staple article of woollen cloth, either by the introduction of machinery and its various improvements from time to time, or by changes in the fabric itself, we shall find every now and then a revolution to have taken place, whereby whole branches of industry have been displaced. Again, in the transposition of labour from the domestic dwelling to the mill, and back again, new features have been added, or taken away and restored, not only to the general character of the labourer, but to all about him. In looking upon these variations at the time they take place, we are apt in some instances to associate with them a greater amount of human misery than strictly belongs to them, while in others, it is far undervalued; and often the provident application of relief is overlooked in the anxious desire to meet instantaneous necessity, whereby suffering merit is pushed aside by the more importunate idlers, and charity is occasionally misapplied. However, if we knew correctly the number of those affected by any disturbance of occupation, we should be better able to estimate the amount of real distress, and to appropriate relief more correctly—by weighing the associated help arising between parent and child. Though it is true that the withdrawal of the means of sustenance in any quarter affects all more or less, yet it is obvious that there is a great difference in this respect between a population exclusively dependent upon one source of employment and that which has many sources within its reach.

For instance, when distress prevails among agriculturists, it is universal. In manufactures this is not the case; for, generally, when one branch is passive another is active, and *vice versâ*. The linen and the worsted trades are rarely both in the same state; each is commonly in the opposite extreme. The woollen is more variable; but, as in all these branches, there is a consolidation of labour amongst the labourers, the distress of the operative manufacturer is seldom, if ever, so bitter in the town as in the townships of Leeds, where, as in agriculture, labour is exclusive, and distress, when it does prevail, is also universal. The sub-division of the active population of Leeds may be thus attempted:—

Persons employed in the manufacture of woollen, worsted, cotton, silk, and flax goods, by power, that is, in mills	10,663
Woolcombers	138
Handloom weavers	1,239
Select trades	13,233
Miscellaneous ditto	17,916
Domestic servants, children, and others, not specified	38,881
Total	82,120

Among the select trades are 594 mechanics, which number being added to the persons employed in mills and woolcombing gives a total of 12,684 as the approximate gross number of persons composing the manufacturing population of the township. That these materially affect the interests of all the rest of the community, in the distribution of wages, and in the moral as well as social relations of life, there can be no doubt, but less, perhaps, in their physical state than has been imagined. We shall inquire in a subsequent part of this report into the amount of this influence.

Moral State of the Population.

The subjoined tables on crime have been carefully selected from the day-book at the police-office, and from such reports as could be obtained from Mr. Lancaster, the gaoler, and other persons acquainted with the facts. They are carried through nine years, and give the number of persons, both male and female, brought up before the magistrates during each year, with their ages in various periods, their trades, and places of residence; the results of summary proceedings before the Magistrates and before the Recorder at the sessions, with the number of times the same persons were brought up in one year.* It will be seen that the number of offenders brought to justice increased up to 1836, during which year there was a great addition, owing, doubtless, to the increased activity of the new police, which came into operation about that time; but that in each subsequent year there has been a gradual and progressive decrease. Then again, there is a table of the residences of the offenders, to show the amount of local and immigrant crime, and the number of offenders who really belong to the township and the out-townships. If that year be taken wherein the largest number of offenders belonging to the township of Leeds (to which, it must be remembered, all the previous tables are limited) were brought up, the amount of local crime seems but small. With regard to the quality of the offences, it does not appear that the increase in those of a serious nature has been at all great. The number of felonies in 1837-8 was not equal to those of 1831-2. The general increase in 1836 consists of drunken and disorderly persons; whilst the number of transported felons has diminished since 1834. There have been no means of ascertaining the education of the offenders, as these tables on crime have only reference to the past; but Mr. Lancaster has a series of tables in preparation by which the different effects of punishment on offenders can be in future ascertained.

The classes of persons who stand prominent as violators of the law

* Abstracts of the first four tables are appended; the last three are wholly omitted.

are butchers, blacksmiths, bricklayers, clothiers, woolcombers, dyers, joiners, masons, machine-makers, shoemakers, tailors, watermen, and weavers. It is true, however, that these trades are the most numerous ; but this is not the sole reason why they thus appear. It seems that certain classes, and especially those above named, are more addicted to intemperance and dissipation than the others. That some of the persons so engaged are more immoral than the rest, and that their habits and practices operate most unfavourably upon the general character of their respective neighbourhoods, is a truth which cannot be denied. The common effects of congregation are visible, not only in themselves, but in their families : the children in the wards where these persons reside are marked by a degree of brutality which does not exist in others. Thus, for instance, the mill girl from the country, within three or four miles of Leeds, is seemly in her person, and generally decorous in her deportment. If the question is asked where she lives, she tells you with civility ; and if inquiry be made after the habits of her parents, they are found to be poor but industrious persons, living upon low wages, coming into the market together, and leaving it again so as to be at home not later than eight at night. Take, on the other hand, a mill girl from the town, the offspring of those parents who are described above as thus congregating ; she leaves her work and hastens to her associates, with whom during the day she has planned some project for the evening ; her father is at the public-house ; her mother, thus left alone for months, has herself become careless in her person, and almost reckless in her habits ; the daughter thus has no one to guide her ; her associates at home and abroad are abandoned ; eventually she becomes so herself, and is lost to all sense of decency. Many thus become independent and ungovernable, and are avoided by those overlookers who have the sense to notice this difference and the courage to apply their wisdom—who act under the idea that no valid reason exists why a mill should not be as well regulated and as moral as a dwelling.

Abstract of Tables relating to Crime in the Borough of Leeds.

TABLE A.—Number and Ages of Persons brought before the Magistrates.

Number brought before the Magistrates.				Ages of Persons brought before the Magistrates in 6 Years, from 1833 to 1838.	
Years.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Ages.	Number.
1830	1,659	385	2,044	Under 15 . .	696
1831	1,917	456	2,373	From 15 to 21 . .	5,147
1832	1,700	415	2,115	22 .. 31 . .	5,308
1833	1,961	439	2,400	32 .. 41 . .	2,424
1834	1,878	429	2,307	42 .. 51 . .	1,024
1835	2,025	391	2,416	52 and upwards . .	525
1836	2,539	665	3,204	Not known	284
1837	2,132	639	2,771		
1838	1,750	560	2,310	Total	15,408

TABLE B.—Number of Males of each Trade from which more than Five Persons were Apprehended Annually during the Nine Years from 1830 to 1838.

Butchers, 272—Blacksmiths, 87—Bricklayers, 201—Bakers, 46—Clothiers, 180—Clerks, 46—Croppers, 330—Colliers, 108—Coopers, 51—Cloth-dressers, 922—Combers, 163—Cloth-drawers, 55—Dyers, 245—Flax-dressers, 97—Hawkers, 79—Joiners, &c., 335—Labourers, 8,545—Masons, 162—Machine-makers, 175—Moulders, 58—Mechanics, 98—Plumbers, 47—Painters, 55—Pressers, 62—Printers, 60—Sweeps, 138—Soldiers, 101—Sawyers, 80—Shoemakers, 475—Slubbers, 60—Seamen, 78—Tailors, 350—Tinnors, 49—Vagrants, 193—Watermen, 346—Weavers, 1,083—Wool-sorters, 59—Whitesmiths, 142.

TABLE C.—Residences of Offenders, 1830 to 1838.

Within the borough of Leeds, 15,681—Holbeck, 539—Hunslet, 675—Armley, 202—Wortley, 225—Beeston, 90—Bramley, 148—Chapel Town, &c., 58—Farnley, 19—Woodhouse, 250—Headingley, 53—Meanwood, 10—Kirkstall, 78—Halton, 13.—Without the borough: England and Wales, 2,417—Scotland, 241—Ireland, 629—Foreign Countries, 60—Unknown, 311.

TABLE D.—Nature of the principal Offences in each Year.

Years.	Felony.	Drunk and Disorderly.	Vagrancy.	Assaults.	All other Offences.
1830	471	736	395	284	158
1831	617	863	437	268	188
1832	580	678	423	266	168
1833	583	823	472	335	187
1834	490	724	527	389	177
1835	604	751	515	391	155
1836	486	1,516	591	458	150
1837	548	1,133	530	416	144
1838	564	813	487	332	114

To the tables of crime may not inappropriately be appended a statement of the number of inns, beer-houses, common lodging-houses, gambling-houses, and houses of ill fame, which are as follows:—

In the whole township: Inns, 216—Beer-houses, 235—Lodging-houses, 41, with 156 beds, of which all but 3 are in the North, North-east, and East wards—Gambling-houses, 2, both in the Mill-hill ward—Houses of ill fame, 51 public and 47 private, of which 38 public and 34 private are in the above-mentioned first three wards.

It will be perceived that the number of inns and beer-houses is 451, or about 1 to every 180 of the population. To attempt to ascertain the consumption of exciseable liquors in them would, in the first place, be intrusive, and in the next, would lead to no certain or useful result. If the consumption could be correctly ascertained, it would not be confined to the inhabitants of the township only, as it is shared by all travellers and other non-resident consumers, and would, therefore, form no criterion of local value.

On the subject of prostitution, it appears that, amid so large a population, the number of houses of ill fame is comparatively small; and perhaps the general feature which prostitution seems to bear on the face of the town is not by any means so extensive as in many other places. There is reason, however, to fear that it is upon the increase rather than otherwise, and that the habits of some of the people show a deplorable laxity of domestic discipline. No doubt a great deal of this arises from the congregations that exist in those filthy streets which

have been before referred to, and to the want of better general regulations, both civil and domestic.

Religious Accommodation.

The next point of inquiry is the church and chapel accommodation in the township, which is shown in the following table, made up in the present year, with its proportion to the population in each ward.

Wards.	Name of each Place of Worship.	Denomination.	Sittings in each.	Total Religious Accommodation of the Ward.	Population of the Ward.
North . . .	St. James . . .	Church . . .	1,200	3,686	12,506
	St. Patrick's . . .	Catholic . . .	340		
	Ebenezer . . .	New Con. Meth. . .	800		
	Ann Carr's . . .	Primitive Meth. . .	180		
	George's-street . . .	Independent . . .	530		
	Byron-street . . .	Ditto . . .	450		
	Zoar . . .	Southcotites . . .	186		
N. East . . .	St. Mary's . . .	Church . . .	1,434	7,364	16,269
	St. Mary's . . .	Catholic . . .	730		
	St. Peter's . . .	Old Con. Meth. . .	2,600		
	Old Chapel . . .	New Con. Meth. . .	1,200		
	Stone Chapel . . .	Association Meth. . .	700		
	Quarry-hill . . .	Primitive Meth. . .	500		
	Duke-street . . .	Inghamites . . .	200		
East . . .	Rehoboth . . .	Old Con. Meth. . .	400	800	14,271
	Zion Chapel . . .	New Con. Meth. . .	400		
South . . .	Christ Church . . .	Church . . .	1,500	5,710	5,630
	Wesley Chapel . . .	Old Con. Meth. . .	1,410		
	Bethesda Chapel . . .	New Con. Meth. . .	600		
	Salem . . .	Independent . . .	1,200		
	Water-lane . . .	Quakers . . .	1,000		
Mill Hill . . .	St. Paul's . . .	Church . . .	1,400	5,080	5,167
	Trinity . . .	Ditto . . .	720		
	South Parade . . .	Baptist . . .	1,380		
	Albion Chapel . . .	Independent . . .	800		
	Mill-hill Chapel . . .	Unitarian . . .	780		
Kirkgate . . .	St. Peter's . . .	Church . . .	2,800	3,330	3,138
	Call-lane . . .	Arian . . .	530		
West . . .	St. George's . . .	Church . . .	1,654	8,104	15,483
	St. Ann's . . .	Catholic . . .	900		
	Oxford-place . . .	Old Con. Meth. . .	2,550		
	Park-street . . .	Association Meth. . .	800		
	Rehoboth . . .	Primitive Meth. . .	800		
	Queen-street . . .	Independent . . .	1,400		
N. West . . .	St. Mark's . . .	Church . . .	1,327	7,377	9,656
	Sr. John's . . .	Ditto . . .	1,200		
	Brunswick . . .	Old Con. Meth. . .	2,500		
	Woodhouse . . .	Ditto . . .	500		
	Woodhouse . . .	Primitive Meth. . .	200		
	Belgrave . . .	Independent . . .	1,650		
Total				41,451	82,120

In dividing this accommodation according to the sects, we see that there are 9 churches belonging to the Establishment, containing 13,235 sittings; 3 Catholic chapels, with 1,970 sittings; 17 Methodist chapels, with 16,340 sittings; 6 Independent chapels, with 6,030 sittings; and 5 belonging to other sects, and containing 3,876 sittings.

The distribution of the accommodation is very unequal. In the North, North-east, and East wards, which are inhabited chiefly by the labouring classes, there are only 11,850 sittings for a population of 43,046 individuals, while in the other and more opulent wards there are 29,601 sittings for 39,074 persons.

The remaining institutions of a religious character existing in the town are, the Religious Tract Society, the Leeds Branch Missionary Society, the Leeds Ladies' Branch Bible Society, the Leeds Auxiliary Bible Society, the Auxiliary Methodist Missionary Society, the District Committee for Promoting Christian Knowledge, the Association in aid of the Moravian Mission, the Auxiliary Hibernian Society, with a few others.

Education.

The next branch of inquiry to which the committee have to refer the Council is that of education. The subsequent tables relate to this interesting topic, which is divided into three classes, viz., week day general, week day factory, and Sunday schools.

General Day Schools.

WARDS.	Total Number of Schools.	Schools kept by		Number of Teachers having other occupations.	Number of Scholars.		Amount of charge per head, per Week.			Subjects taught.			
		Males.	Females.		Males.	Females.	Under 3d.	3d. to 6d.	6d. and above.	Elements of Read- ing.	Knitting and Sew- ing.	Fancy work.	Writing and Ac- counts.
North . .	20	4	16	2	325	247	10	6	4	20	16	..	8
North East . .	25	8	17	..	718	531	18	5	2	25	15	..	8
East . . .	17	3	14	2	257	261	14	2	1	17	15	..	2
South . . .	12	3	9	1	253	149	7	1	4	12	9	1	5
Kirkgate . .	6	2	4	..	332	260	4	2	..	6	3	..	5
Mill Hill . .	11	4	7	..	412	274	5	2	4	11	5	1	8
West . . .	41	12	29	2	769	859	14	6	21	41	29	12	26
North West .	22	6	16	1	422	330	10	3	9	22	15	4	12
Total . .	154	42	112	8	3,488	2,911	82	27	45	154	107	18	74

The number of factory schools not included in the above table is 20, containing 460 scholars, of whom 230 are males and 130 are females. The general charge is 2d. per week, which is usually paid by the employer.

The number of Sunday-schools is 50, of which 14 are connected with the Church of England, 16 are in the Union, and 20 are not in the Union. The number of children in each class is as follows:

Church of England, 1,843 boys 1,805 girls. 4,130 total.			
In the Union . . . 1,637 , , 1,628 , , 3,265 , ,			
Not in the Union . 1,789 , , 2,245 , , 4,034 , ,			
Total . . . 5,269	5,678	11,429	

The total number of teachers in these schools is 1425.*

It thus appears that 6,759 children are at school on the week days, being about 1 to 12 of the whole population, and that 11,429 are partaking of Sunday-school instruction in this township, which probably may be the means of still further reducing the amount of crime, if they are wisely and perseveringly managed. It may not be amiss, for a few moments, to glance at the character of these schools, and at the quality of the education given in them. Of the week-day schools it will be seen that out of 154, 112 are kept by females; that the charge per head in 109 is under 6*d.* a-week; that knitting and sewing are taught in 107, and writing and accounts in 74, or rather less than half. Many of those in which the charge is under 3*d.* a-week, bear the character of dame schools only, and are in fact more for keeping children out of danger during the employment of the mother, than for the purposes of real education. In very few is anything taught beyond the elements of the English language, by persons more fitted to be scholars than teachers; and rarely if ever upon a system based on proper principles. The factory schools also, with the exception of three or four, are similar to the others, and the education bestowed is of the most meagre description. Supposing that the children of the middle and higher classes occupy all the schools above 6*d.* a-week, let us, by taking the number of children in each ward belonging to the working classes, see how they are supplied, even with the kind of education which they can now obtain.

WARDS.	Population of the Ward.	Number of Houses under £10 Rent.	Working Population.		Number of Schools under 6 <i>d.</i> a week.	Children at School.
			Persons to a House, gives Parents.	2½ to a House, gives the Children.		
North Ward.	12,506	2,100	4,200	5,250	16	572
North East . .	16,269	3,422	6,844	8,555	23	1,249
East	14,271	2,947	5,894	7,367	16	518
South. . . .	5,630	943	1,886	2,357	8	402
Mill Hill . .	5,167	348	696	870	7	686
Kirkgate . .	3,138	274	548	685	6	592
West	15,483	2,104	4,208	5,260	20	1,628
North West .	9,656	1,465	2,930	3,662	13	752
					20 Factory Schools.	360
Total . . . .	..	..	..	34,006	129	6,759

* The name of each school, and the number of scholars and teachers in it are given in the report.

As more than one half of the total number of children in the township are under 9 years, let one half of the children in the above table be taken as under 9, and the rest be supposed to be at work. The half of 34,006 is 17,003, and allowing one third for those that are too young, and away from school from necessity and other causes, viz. 5,667, and adding the 6,759 who are at school, there still remain 4,577 who are not deriving any benefit from education. If the Sunday-school education were systematized upon one general principle, and by it a solid and explanatory education were given, it would add materially to the general intellectual culture of the rising race; for the attendance at these schools exceeds that at the week-day schools by 4,670. But the public is apathetic to a question which is of such vital importance to our domestic and social welfare. Hard service and the most economic means to continue it are freely afforded by many persons as teachers in these excellent institutions, who, if they confer no other benefit on society, keep from the streets, and from the pollutions of congregation and idleness, 11,429 children of both sexes; leaving their own families, and sacrificing many comforts to this sense of duty; yet aided by niggard help, and uncountenanced by the mass, on whom in fact they are conferring an inestimable benefit. If the quality of the education which the children receive be not very good, at least there is a moral restraint pervading these assemblages which cannot fail to be beneficial. They demand the sympathy of the public, and more than that, its help; and they deserve a forced place, if not a voluntary one, in the consideration of the whole community. The educational condition of the working classes in Mr. Marshall's mill at Holbeck is as follows, from whence some idea may be formed of what it is in Leeds, though your committee fear the example is too favourable to be taken as the ground for a general estimate.

	Under 13.	Between 13 and 18.	Total.	Per Centage proportion.
Can write . . . . .	..	328	328	..
Can read the Testament . .	164	266	430	48.4
,, Spelling Book .	65	135	200	22.5
,, Primer . . .	54	121	175	19.7
,, Alphabet . . .	4	36	40	4.5
Cannot read . . . . .	..	43	43	4.9
Total	287	601	888	100.

The other institutions of an intellectual character are the Philosophical Society with its museum; the Literary Institution, and the Mechanics' Institution, with their libraries; the two public libraries, and Calvert's museum.

Physical Condition of the Population.

The last subject for consideration is the physical condition of the population, upon which the facts already laid before the Council have an important bearing.

Births, Deaths and Marriages in the Year ended July, 1839.

	North and North-East Wards.		North-West, West, Mill Hill.		South, East, and Kirkgate.		Total.		Marriages.
	Population 28,775.		Population 30,306		Population 23,039.				
	Births.	Deaths.	Births.	Deaths.	Births.	Deaths.	Births.	Deaths.	
July . .	101	98	98	68	76	54	275	220	103
August .	109	72	72	52	66	58	247	182	129
September	108	105	97	55	63	68	268	228	122
October .	90	129	89	70	66	80	245	279	124
November.	71	138	97	67	64	91	232	296	123
December.	117	110	69	73	70	108	256	291	166
January .	63	87	94	70	56	68	213	225	120
February .	144	116	92	67	64	57	300	240	100
March . .	120	85	99	78	90	69	309	232	108
April . .	100	98	79	65	78	75	257	238	120
May . .	59	53	112	88	63	31	234	172	120
June . .	187	128	79	86	99	49	355	263	122
Total . .	1,269	1,219	1,077	839	855	808	3,201	2,866	1,457

The above table shows the births, deaths, and marriages in each month of the year ended July, 1839. The reference to the wards in which the greatest number of births and deaths took place is easy; but the marriages are spread over the township, and are not therefore thus divisible. On any future occasion a correct test can be applied to discover their increase or decrease, in proportion to the population. The total amount of inhabitants, with the marriages, births, and deaths in each ward, will show, in comparison with other districts, their disposition to matrimony, or otherwise, and thus afford scope for inquiring whether early and improvident marriages are generally formed, or not; and whether they are in any degree influenced by the kind of labour predominant in the wards, the rate of wages, and the annual amount of employment. The month of the year in which the greatest numbers of births and deaths occur, under the same rule, by retrogressive inquiry, will furnish the period of the year most productive of births, and that most fatal to human life, as well as the localities in which such differences arise. Thus, for instance, births are most numerous in June, and the deaths in November. If, in the statistics of the whole kingdom, the proportion of births to the population be 1 to 28, and of deaths 1 to 36, the condition of Leeds bears out the report of the Registrar-General as to its unhealthiness; for its births, in relation to the population, are 1 to 25, and its deaths 1 to 28½. It will be interesting to inquire whether the mortality be general over the town, or prevails in particular wards, and if so, to learn the cause, whether on account of the congregation of particular trades, or from causes totally independent of labour. The working classes reside most extensively in ratio to the population, in the North and Kirkgate districts of the Registrar, and here is the largest amount of deaths. Whence arises this? Is it produced by labour, and if so, by what kind of labour? Is it in consequence of insufficient ven-

tilation? of destitution? or of local disadvantages existing in the district? The amount of human life which seems at stake is surely ground for inquiry into this important branch of statistical knowledge. First, then, is labour the cause? Your Committee are anxious to meet the prevailing impression in all manufacturing towns, that "the labour" of the place is the source of fatality; intelligent persons are apt to receive this idea at first sight without inquiry into its truth. The staple manufactures of Leeds are woollen, worsted, and flax, and the total number of persons employed in these branches respectively are

Woollen trade. . .	5,064
Flax ,, . . .	3,883
Worsted ,, . . .	1,434
Total . . .	<u>10,381</u>

Now all writers on the effects of trade upon longevity, and especially Thackrah, admit the healthfulness of the woollen department, not merely as a branch of manufacture, but of occupation generally; the 5,064 persons employed in the woollen trade must therefore be subtracted from the total, in order to arrive at the number of those who, if manufacture has such an effect, must increase the mortality of the town of Leeds in so great a degree. There remain only 5,317, which number forms about the fifteenth part of the entire population. It is absurd to suppose for a moment that such a result arises from the diseases originating in, or by reason of the unhealthiness of the persons occupied in the manufacture of flax: for were they capable of producing such effects, like the steel-grinders of Sheffield, who know the date of existence which there is no probability of their exceeding, it would be equally known, and have become equally proverbial. It does not seem to be the province of your Committee to descant on the effects of trade on longevity, but it appears to them that there is no just ground for believing that the manufactures of Leeds unduly affect the mortality of its population. Besides, of the persons employed in the most unhealthy process in flax-spinning, viz. heckling, the number who are permanently so occupied is exceedingly small. It is true, that a great number of boys of tender age are to be found at the heckling machines, inhaling the dusty particles which arise during their labours; but they rarely continue more than three years, and remove long before permanent disease can possibly be formed in such numbers as to affect the mortality of so large a population. Again, in the spinning department, the most unhealthy of all its branches from the variation of temperature to which those who are employed in it are exposed—the female labourers are not often seen after 25 years of age; so that in no way can the increase of mortality be exclusively attributed to factory labour. Moreover, in those districts which are the most fatal, viz., in the north, north-east, and east wards, but few persons employed in flax labour reside; the population is mainly composed of shoemakers, tailors, dyers, butchers, bricklayers, smiths, hand-loom weavers, bakers, inn-keepers, provision-dealers, and the like. The Council is referred to a table of mortality,* taken from the statements of 1,742 widows, which shows, that these trades affect life, and to a great extent. It may be said, that the trades

* Not given in the Report.

in connexion with manufactures operate secondarily on longevity, but if any preponderance exists in trades, it is more likely to be in those in which the habits of the labourer are immoral, apart from the mere occupations, assisted by local causes of a different nature. The Council is also referred to the state of the streets, the size and condition of the houses in the several wards, as a key to the increase of mortality prevailing in particular wards; for as the population seems equally distributed throughout the town, there is no good reason why trade should affect mortality more in one division than another; but there is a cogent reason, when we find disease and death in proportion to the want of sewerage, ventilation, and cleanliness. No doubt, however, exists of the prevailing unhealthiness of the north, east, and north-east districts, Kirkgate, and the west;—it will be an interesting subject for future statistics, to inquire the cause, when tables are afterwards formed, which will give the results, some of which are now in course of preparation. If the great mortality in Leeds depends on infant life, the question naturally arises, Does the physical condition of the parents suffer by their occupation? or do the most births occur in situations where malaria, or other atmospheric influences are more powerful than infantile age may resist, with less means of sustentation than are necessary? In the aggregate of adult deaths, consumption seems the prevailing ailment, and this again favours the opinion, that local causes assist the effects of occupation; but as yet correct tables of mortality are too few, and the results are too incomplete to justify more than speculation, on a subject which of all others requires the most exact and complete data. Destitution as a cause, in the north-east and east wards, is worthy of attention; but the tables of the Benevolent Society show that a great portion of its charity is dispensed there, and much other charity is doubtless distributed among these people, although the data are not sufficiently precise to be implicitly relied on. In future returns from the Registrar of Deaths, whether this ratio of births and deaths be correct or no will be developed, and if these are taken together with the congregation of trades, and the means possessed of combating disease, accurate results must follow. If the deaths be in proportion to the trades, this will seem to modify the general mortality of the community. If trade seems to have an equal result in every ward, and yet the amount of deaths in each ward retains its ratio as now exhibited, the reason will doubtless be in local causes, which must be then examined. It is material, however, to know the rate of wages generally, which is distributed over this population, because without this knowledge, we shall not know how to form an opinion as to the means they have of combating the effects of disease actually arising from occupation, or the effects of other causes on the decayed condition of the physical system. Thus, for instance, shoemakers and tailors prevail as bodies in the north district, and these are trades which seem exceedingly prejudicial to longevity, either by the vicious habits which seem to attach to the persons following them, or by the operation of the trades themselves.

The following table of the rate of wages will materially assist the inquirer in ascertaining how far trades affect longevity; for it must be evident that where there is an exhaustion of the vital powers by physical agency, without the means of reproduction in quantity sufficient for re-

pairing the loss, the ultimate fatality will be greater in proportion than where the same amount of loss exists, with means more adequate to its restoration. The shoemaker or tailor, for instance, works no harder than the joiner or bricklayer, nor are they exposed to the same vicissitudes of weather and temperature; but, while one has 4s. 6d. a-week to supply the absolute requirements of nature, the other has 7 or 8 shillings. By taking the population in its different branches, it would not be difficult to ascertain the actual amount of wages distributed over the great portion of the active part, either weekly or annually, and thus to estimate the effect of destitution on the prices of Colonial and Home produce, during periods of scarcity or abundance of employment among the working classes within a limited area. Few persons know better than grocers and tea-dealers of the town, how general trade is moving; the demand for the luxuries of life is a correct barometer of the means within the power of consumers.

TRADES.	Average Weekly Wages.	Average Employment through the Year.	TRADES.	Average Weekly Wages.	Average Employment through the Year.
	£. s. d.	Months.		£. s. d.	Months.
Tailors . . .	0 16 0	11	Saddlers . . .	1 1 0	11
Shoemakers . .	0 14 0	10	Weavers . . .	0 13 0	10
Painters . . .	1 0 0	9	Plane Makers . .	1 1 0	12
Cloth Pressers .	1 0 0	9	Paper Stainers . .	1 4 0	9
„ Drawers . .	1 4 6	12	Gunsmiths . . .	1 5 0	12
Joiners . . .	0 19 6	11	Hatters . . .	1 4 0	10
Printers . . .	1 1 0	12	Mechanics . . .	1 4 0	12
Plumbers . . .	1 3 0	10	Dyers . . .	1 2 0	9
Smiths . . .	0 19 0	12	Curriers . . .	1 0 0	11
Slubbers . . .	1 4 0	9	Brass Founders . .	1 5 0	11
Woolsorters . .	1 1 0	10	Woodsawyers . .	1 0 0	9
Plasterers . . .	0 18 0	9	Coopers . . .	1 0 0	11
Bricklayers . .	1 3 0	9	Woolcombers . . .	0 14 0	10
Warehousemen .	1 1 0	12	Iron Moulders . .	1 5 0	12
Wood Turners . .	0 17 0	10	Turners . . .	1 2 0	12
Millwrights . .	1 6 0	12	Wheelwrights . .	0 18 0	10
Masons . . .	1 2 0	10	Worsted Piecers .	0 4 6	12
Woollen Piecers .	0 5 0	9	Preparers . . .	0 6 6	12
„ Fillers . .	0 6 0	9			

It is no assumption to say, that various habits connect themselves with certain trades; for the records of crime show that shoemakers, tailors, bricklayers, smiths, and many classes of a similar nature, are both intemperate and dissipated in their habits, and these, being in accordance with the rate of wages, either in diminution or excess, materially contribute to shorten life. Their perpetual appearance before the magistrates for drunken and disorderly conduct proves them to be very liable to such irregularities. And a table of mortality, prepared by your Committee, confirms the fact that deaths occur more frequently among such trades than is perhaps imagined. In the north and north-east wards, all the trades that are so conspicuous before the magistrates for offences against morals, stand equally prominent in the same table of mortality. Occupations, therefore, have their influence on the ratio of

mortality; but to that must be added the effects of impure atmosphere, dirt, want of ventilation, and causes of a similar nature, and the consequences are probably double what they would be from the mere exercise of a particular calling. The shoemaker, for instance, averages only 14s. a-week, for the maintenance of a numerous family, or about 4s. 6d. per head. His sedentary habits, and daily consumption of the powers of life, show his to be a most fatal occupation; out of 58 deaths, 28 were by consumption. So also tailors,—their hours of labour, and that, too, in an impure atmosphere, exceedingly diminishes their chance of existence; their income, including their families, does not exceed, and seldom reaches, 5s. 6d. a-head per week; and out of 65 deaths, 35 were by consumption.

There is another topic to which the Council is referred, viz., to the number of children belonging to the families of particular classes. To the physiological statist, this is of considerable interest. Some important facts are shown in the following table:—

CLASSES.	TRADES.	No. of Persons.	Of whom are Single.	No. of Married Persons.	No. of Children.			No. of Children to a Family.
					Males.	Females.	Total.	
Manufacturing	{ Flax-dressers, handloom-weavers, dyers, and cloth-drawers. . . . }	2281	345	1936	2498	2411	4909	2.53
Out-door Handicraft . . .	{ Labourers, bricklayers, masons }	2024	91	1933	2076	2102	4178	2.16
In-door Handicraft . . .	{ Shoemakers, engravers, tailors, smiths, curriers, bookbinders, nail-makers, wheelwrights, wood-turners, cutlers, chairmakers, cloggers, gun and silversmiths . }	2354	331	2023	2244	2031	4275	2.11
Trades. . . .	{ Bakers, basket-makers, confectioners, butchers, cap-makers, druggists, cork-cutters, clock-makers, fishmongers, grocers, glass-dealers, greengrocers, hatters, hosiers, innkeepers, linen-drapers, maltsters, music-sellers, milliners, oilmen, painters, provision-dealers }	2195	257	1938	1851	1948	3799	1.96
Independent, and Professional	{ Agents, accountants, architects, artists, auctioneers, bailiffs, barristers, clergymen, book-keepers, independent, merchants, physicians, surgeons, solicitors, travellers, warehousemen . }	2417	472	1945	1742	2000	3742	1.92

Thus it is evinced that the greatest proportion of births takes place among the lowest class ; next among those employed in out-door handicraft ; then among in-door handicraftsmen ; then among tradesmen ; and lastly, among independent and professional people. Then we trace those persons who are most disposed to marry ; viz., first, the out-door handicraftsmen, who have only 91 single out of 2,024 ; next tradesmen ; then in-door handicraftsmen ; then the manufacturing ; and, lastly, the independent population. There are two or three other subjects which your Committee intended to have introduced fully into their Report, but they are prevented by the necessity of closing it, before the opportunity has been afforded of bringing out the details. These are the permanent Charity, the Benefit, and the Destitution Societies, distributed over the entire population. By permanent Charity, is meant the medical charities of the town, for the township ; viz., the Infirmary, Dispensary, House of Recovery, Lying-in-Hospital, Eye and Ear Infirmary, and the medical dispensation of the Guardians of the Poor. By Benefit Societies is meant,—the Secret Orders and benefit clubs, which prevail in Leeds to a great extent, and have a material influence, not only on its population, but on its taxation. By its Destitution is meant the relief supplied by the Guardians of the Poor, except that given to vagrants. All of which information would have been highly interesting ; and with respect to the Benefit Societies, exceedingly useful to their members. Your Committee, however, in conclusion, trust that the facts now presented, collected and collated at great personal trouble, will be sufficient evidence of the necessity of their labours ; and they hope that these may lead the attention of the Councillors to the state of the wards which they represent, with the feeling that they are bound, by every principle of humanity, as well as of good faith, to redeem their pledges to the electors, and faithfully so to watch over and represent their local condition, that whether their wants or ills are social, moral, religious, or intellectual, they may be brought to the notice of the Council chamber, and means may be adopted to obtain their redress.

An Outline of the Commercial Statistics of Ceylon. By JOHN CAPPER, Esq., Corresponding Member of the Statistical Society of London.*

IMPRESSED with the belief that the Island of Ceylon will in a few years become one of our most productive, and, consequently, most wealthy and important colonies, in spite of the many obstacles thrown in its way

* Extract of letter from Mr. Capper, dated Colombo, April, 1839 :—

“ The inclosed facts and calculations have been thrown together during a few hours of cessation from mercantile pursuits, in the hope that perhaps some of them may not prove altogether unacceptable to your Society. I admit that many of the subjects are touched upon very briefly, but at present Statistics are so little cared for in this corner of the world, that it is extremely difficult to obtain any correct information from those who are best able to give it. The returns of customs duties may, I believe, be relied upon with confidence ; but as much cannot be said with